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NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

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14 July 1965

**AGREEMENT FOR REORGANIZATION OF THE
NATIONAL RECONNAISSANCE PROGRAM**

A. The National Reconnaissance Program

1. The National Reconnaissance Program is a single program, national in character, to be developed and maintained through a cooperative endeavor on the part of all agencies of the Government concerned. The potentialities of U. S. technology must be aggressively and imaginatively exploited to develop systems for the collection of intelligence which are fully responsive to national intelligence needs and objectives.
2. The National Reconnaissance Program shall be responsive directly and solely to the intelligence collection requirements and priorities established by the United States Intelligence Board. Scheduling

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and targeting of both satellite and manned aircraft missions over denied areas shall continue to be the responsibility of USIB, subject to the operational approval of the 303 Committee.

B. NRP Executive Committee

3. An NRP Executive Committee, consisting of the Deputy Secretary of Defense and the Director of Central Intelligence, is hereby established to formulate, guide and regulate the NRP. On the invitation of the Deputy Secretary of Defense or the Director of the Central Intelligence, the Special Assistant to the President for Science and Technology shall sit on the Executive Committee for the purpose of participating in decisions relating to research and development. The NRP Executive Committee shall:

- a. Establish an appropriate level of effort for the NRP in response to reconnaissance requirements provided by USIB and in the light of technical capabilities and fiscal limitations.
- b. Approve or modify the consolidated National Reconnaissance Program and its budget.

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c. Approve the allocation of responsibility and the corresponding funds for research and preliminary design studies for new systems.

d. Allocate development responsibilities and the corresponding funds for specific reconnaissance programs to CIA, the military services, [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] in such a way as to take maximum advantage of their facilities, competence and experience. It will also establish guidelines for collaboration between departments and for mutual support where appropriate.

e. Assign operational responsibility for various types of manned overflight missions to CIA or DOD, subject to the concurrence of the 303 Committee.

f. Periodically review the essential features of the major program elements of the NRP.

4. The Executive Committee shall meet on the call of either the Deputy Secretary of Defense or the Director of Central Intelligence and at least every two weeks. All meetings will be attended by

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the DMRO and such staff advisors as the Deputy Secretary of Defense or the Director of Central Intelligence consider desirable.

C. National Reconnaissance Office

5. To implement the NRP, a National Reconnaissance Office is hereby established within the DOD. The NRO will be responsible for the vital central management of the National Reconnaissance Program. The execution of this program will be delegated to qualified elements of the Government on a jointly agreed basis. This office will manage, coordinate, and provide fiscal control of the participating elements of the NRP and their contributing activities; it will be a management organization working through delegated responsibility.

6. The Director of the NRO shall be appointed by the Secretary of Defense and be responsive solely to the NRP Executive Committee. The DMRO shall:

- a. Be kept fully and completely informed of all programs and activities undertaken as part of the NRP.

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b. Subject to review by the Executive Committee, have authority to approve, modify, redirect or terminate all research and development programs in the NRP.

c. Prepare a coordinated, comprehensive budget for all aspects of the National Reconnaissance Program.

d. Establish a fiscal control and accounting procedure to ensure that all funds expended in support of the National Reconnaissance Program are fully accounted for and appropriately utilized by the agencies concerned. In particular, the budget shall show separately those funds to be applied to research and exploratory design, systems development, procurement, and operational activities. It shall show the portion of the funds that are assigned to the Central Intelligence Agency, and funds expended or obligated under the authority of the Director of Central Intelligence under Public Law 110 shall be administered and accounted for by CIA.

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e. Schedule the use of the satellite launching, tracking and recovery facilities.

f. Sit with the USIB for the matters affecting the NRP.

7. The Deputy Director NRO shall be appointed by the DCI and shall be in the chain of command directly under the Director NRO. He shall at all times be kept fully and currently informed as to all activities of the National Reconnaissance Program. The Deputy Director shall act for and exercise the powers of the Director NRO during his absence or disability.

8. The NRO shall be jointly staffed in a balanced way by personnel from the CIA, the three military departments and other Government agencies.

D. Satellite Reconnaissance Operations

9. To implement the DCI's responsibility for targeting and scheduling of satellite reconnaissance missions, the present Satellite Operations Center will become an integral function of the CIA, responsive to the USIB and the DCI. This Center will

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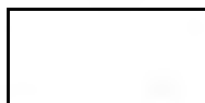


be responsible for selecting the particular orbit and camera programming for individual missions and providing guidance for the on-orbit tasking of satellite vehicles. It will establish the desired launch schedule in response to USIB requirements within the constraints imposed by vehicle availability.

10. The DOD shall be responsible for launching, tracking, command, and recovery of satellite reconnaissance systems. To discharge this responsibility, it will designate a single operational organization within the Air Force as the responsible agent for this function, which in turn shall be responsive to the DNRG. As appropriate, rocket boosters developed both by the Air Force and NASA will be used in the satellite launching program. However, actual funding for and procurement of boosters used in the NRP will be assigned to the Air Force,



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11. Satellite payloads for the program will be procured by the agencies responsible for their development and improvement. The components of these payloads will be accepted, assembled, tested, and programmed by the developing agency at suitable facilities near the launching site. These payloads will then be provided on the schedule established by the DMRG to the Air Force launching organization as certified equipment ready for flight.

E. Security

12. The Director of Central Intelligence, in accordance with his statutory responsibilities for protection of intelligence sources and methods, shall be responsible for establishing the over-all security policy for the NRP. The DMRG will be responsible for the coordination of security matters within the participating elements of the NRP. The DMRG will coordinate the release of public information on the NRP with CIA and the DCI. The CIA shall maintain a central record of all security clearances related to the NRP.

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F. Initial Allocation of Program Responsibilities

13. Responsibility for existing programs of the NRP shall be allocated as indicated in Annex A attached hereto.

<u>Deputy Secretary of Defense</u>	<u>Director of Central Intelligence</u>
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